

Weekly Column for June 15, 2006

Well River Street Festival 2006 is here. At least it will be in two days, and the excitement is certainly building.

Even the weather looks as if it may cooperate. The forecast for Saturday says temperatures will be in the mid-80's, with sunny skies and little chance of rain. All I can say about that is, "About time."

All of the excitement on Saturday begins at 10 a.m. We have more than one hundred vendors, including a diverse amount of food, and juried arts and crafts that rival any festival in the Northeast.

Whether its jewelry, paintings, glassware, or furniture made out of sticks, we literally have something for everyone. And that is without even mentioning the ever-popular Antiques section of the festival.

Then there is the music. This year, we brought in 102.7 WEQX to help us create a musical section of the festival that would be rivaled by few free festivals in the area. I think we have accomplished that.

On the local stage, which will sit at the southern end of the festival, we will feature terrific acts like Brittany, Mike Grutka, Trumystic, and the Ramblin' Jug Stompers.

But it is the World Stage that has everyone talking about. First there are the up and coming artists such as Nightmare of You, As Fast As, and Tally Hall, which was not only featured on the Fox Television Show "The OC" this year, but will also be on the Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson in a few weeks.

And then there is the headliner, World Party. With numerous hits throughout the late 80's and early 90's, World Party is going to be a wonderful time. The band has a new album out, and will actually be flying in from the musical festival Bonnaroo to play the River Street Festival.

I urge everyone to come on down and check them out, and the entire festival out. It is going to be a beautiful day, and best of all- the entire thing is free.

Before I finish for the week, I just wanted to say hello to the fourth grade classes at School 12. The students there wrote letters to the Mayors Office, and many of them had some very nice suggestions. I want to say a special hello to Mrs. Martin's class, which stopped by City Hall yesterday. Hello kids, it was very nice of you to stop by.

Everyone have a great weekend, and we will see you on Saturday!

Harry J Tutunjian  
Mayor of Troy